Beth Israel Hospital Bulletin

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Our X-ray Department

By Samuel A. Robins, M. D.,
Chief of X-ray Dept.

GREETINGS: This is a splendid opportunity given to all departments of the Beth Israel Hospital to acquaint the staff, nurses and the general public with the progress of their work.

The X-ray Department has just completed its first year's work. In view of the progress of organization, such as standardization of new apparatus, development of technic and training of the clerical and technical personnel, this department has accomplished satisfactory work.

Gratitude is due those who made it possible for us to have one of the best equipped departments. The most modern devices for safety and precision were installed to safeguard the patient and operator, at the same time evolving accurate diagnosis.

The plans adopted for the department were to give the maximum efficiency at minimum cost. The diagnostic department consists of two offices for the medical staff, two illuminating rooms, a cystoscopic, general radiographic and fluoroscopic rooms, a well ventilated dark room and a drying room. In the operating suite we have a small dark room for emergencies. All the wards, private and operating rooms are equipped with special wiring for a portable X-ray machine for patients who are too sick to be moved. These two special arrangements, we believe, are original and now some of the newer hospitals are installing special wiring and dark rooms close to the operating rooms.

In addition to our diagnostic facilities we have superficial and deep therapy rooms equipped with all the latest measuring, timing and safety devices.

Recently the hospital acquired a quantity of radium which is used in conjunction with the X-ray therapy department.

To graphically demonstrate the growth of the X-ray department we present a chart showing the number of cases examined and treated each month for the first year, and it is interesting to note the increase in the number of cases from month to month.

Number of cases examined and treated each month.

August	55	cases
September	156	"
October	394	"
November	435	"
December	500	"
January	509	"
February	571	"
March	628	"
April	702	"
May	652	"
June	620	"
July	663	"
Total	5885	"

This department not only serves as a diagnostic and therapeutic center but also functions as an educational department, where students from Harvard and Tufts Medical Schools are being taught.

Weekly X-ray conferences are held where the staff is invited to discuss interesting cases. Articles are being published in various medical journals.

Due credit should be given to the chiefs of the medical, surgical, research, special departments, and the executives of the hospital for their loyal co-operation.

Beth Israel Hospital Women's Auxiliary General Meeting

A WELL attended and enthusiastic meeting marked the opening of the season 1929-1930, when the Beth Israel Hospital Women's Auxiliary met at Ohabei Shalom Community Center, Beacon Street, Brookline, on Monday afternoon, November 4, 1929. Mrs. I. K. E Prager, President, opened the meeting with cordial and gracious greetings.

After the reading of the various reports of the chairmen, the meeting was placed in charge of the hostess, Mrs. David M. Small, who presented Mrs. Lawrence Ilfeld and Mrs. A. S. Troupin, at the piano, in a group of interesting French nursery songs, arranged for four hands.

Then followed an original playlet, "A Day in the Out Patient Department," written and arranged by Mrs. A. E. Pinanski, Chairman of Program and members of the group who participated. The playlet was a series of episodes based upon actual experiences in the Out Patient Department of the Beth Israel Hospital. The members of the cast were: Miss Ruth Alexander, Miss Jessie Goldsmith, Mmes. I. Dimond, Winifred Collat Friedman, Reuben Gryzmish, Carl Lebowich, Julius Levine, Frances Libbman, Harry Linenthal, A. E. Pinanski, I. K. E. Prager, L. Rothenberg, Jennie Saphirstein, John Slater, David M. Small, Naaman Steinberg, Dorothy Steinert, Z. Swartz, Edward Weiss, Charles Wilinsky, Dr. Nathan Addelson and Miss Elizabeth McMahon of the Out Patient Department.

Dr. Charles F. Wilinsky, in his usual eloquent and forceful manner appealed for a continuance of the interest and support of the Auxiliary.

The program closed with motion pictures of scenes in the hospital which proved most interesting.

Dean of Jewish Practitioners Appointed Consulting Physician

AT a recent meeting of the Board of Directors of the Beth Israel Hospital it was voted that Dr. Kallman M. Davidson be appointed Consulting Physician to the medical service.

Dr. Davidson has served as Visiting Physician since the founding of the old hospital and as Visiting Physician and member of the Executive Committee of the new Beth Israel.

Dr. Davidson received his medical education at the University of Koenigsberg under such illustrious men as Naunyn, Minkowski and Von Mickulicz. After post graduate work in Berlin, Dr. Davidson came to Boston, entering practice in 1891, and taking a leading part in Jewish medical affairs since that time.

Dr. Davidson is still actively engaged in private practice.

D. A. Rudy one of the medical staff has recently published a book on diabetes for the patient. It is a well-written work, in very simple form, and is noteworthy for its simple charts, for the excellency of the "substitution" charts in which the ordinary American diets are translated into complete Jewish, Italian or other foreign menus. One hundred and sixty international recipes are appended. The book is very inexpensive and should enjoy wide sale especially among the Jewish population.

Medical Topics

By William Dameshek,—M. D.

The Tumor Clinic. In keeping with world-wide attack against the inroads of cancer, a tumor clinic has been formed. Its personnel consists of men especially interested in cancer and related diseases such as Hodgkin's disease and leukemia. In the group are two "medical" men, four surgeons, an X-ray man especially interested in radiotherapy, and a skin specialist. A social worker and a secretary have been assigned to the clinic. Its purpose is to see the tumor cases in consultation in the wards and out-patient department, and to follow and treat all cases on discharge from the hospital; also to discuss them from the various specialized aspects, and in that way arrive at the most satisfactory method of treatment available. In regard to treatment, we have one of the three most powerful X-ray treatment machines in the city; the hospital is, however, deficient in its supply of radium. The latter deficiency should, it seems to us, be remedied by prompt subscription of funds for that purpose. The Clinic has been in active existence only for a little over a month, yet in that time has seen a large number of cases and apparently will soon be obliged to limit the number of cases seen on any specified morning. From present outlook, it will probably be one of the most important special clinics in the hospital, linking as it does, the medical, surgical, X-ray, and skin departments.

In connection with this note on the tumor clinic, it is interesting to observe that various new methods of treatment (which are emphatically in the experimental stage) are being tried at the hospital.

Skin Research. Certain chronic skin disorders, though not as important fundamentally as cancer, may be just as annoying. One of these is the very common condition which goes by a very formidable medical word: epidermophytosis. This represents a fungus or mold-like infestation of the skin contracted usually in gymnasiums, swimming-pools, etc. Until recently, there has been no satisfactory method of treatment. In collaboration with the Medical Research Division, the Skin Department has devised an inhalation method of treating this disorder. A drug called ethyliodide is inhaled through an appropriate apparatus. So far the results in appropriate cases have been excellent. In connection with treatment, a whole series of researches on the pharmacology (mode of action) and chemistry of the drug have been undertaken by the Medical Research Division.

Medical Research. Each case that comes into the hospital represents a problem of some sort and is therefore an object of research. The constant presence of medical students both from Harvard and Tufts Medical Schools keeps this flame of research on the individual case alive, for where there are students, there are no half-way measures. Students have to be shown!

Besides this individual research, there are general problems constantly being carried on. The Medical Research Division is continuing its long series of studies on the circulation time (length of time it takes blood to circulate) in various conditions. It is also working on the ethyl iodide treatment as mentioned above, on the pharmacology of iodine, and on other problems such as the metabolism of calcium and phosphorus, the treatment of high blood-pressure by new methods, etc.

BETH ISRAEL HOSPITAL BULLETIN

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Editorial Columns

A SMALL group, moved by the spirit of doing for Beth Israel Hospital, unmindful of time and effort, have met at frequent intervals in the library of the hospital. Due to the perseverance of this group this Bulletin has become a reality, and various items of interest have been assembled and offered to the readers.

Obviously no selfish motives are behind this activity, but merely the endeavor to keep constantly before the public the fact that Beth Israel Hospital is active, growing, and doing good work, worthy of your heartiest cooperation and endorsement.

We intend to carry on. Surely everyone interested can think of something to write for publication. It matters not how long or short, or what the subject. Help make the Bulletin an organ of interest and mutual advantage.

Surely one can not but help feeling that the hospital is humming with activity when one reads in the Bulletin reports of the growth and perspective of various clinics and departments. One can not interpret this activity as anything but the reflection of the demands of the community and the reaction of a great institution to these demands.

The Out-Patient Department is perhaps the most vital cog in the whole machine. Its influence is far reaching. During the past year 7639 individuals were taken care of, and these individuals made 36,581 visits to various clinics. There were 1294 persons admitted free of charge. Metropolitan to the nth degree, thirty countries were represented from the standpoint of birthplace. From the standpoint of residence, people came from 110 cities in the United States for advice or treatment in the out-patient department. These cities are included in an area bounded on the North by Maine, on the West by New York State, and on the South by Washington, D. C. No one who is interested in Beth Israel can but feel proud of this record.

The Out-Patient Department had been open but a few months when certain changes were deemed necessary to meet the ever increasing demands placed upon it. A brief history of some of the important developments may not be out of place.

October 1928. *O. P. D. was opened.*

April 1929. *Vein clinic established.* Patients began to come in such numbers that it was necessary to make special arrangements to care for them. In this clinic varicose veins are treated by the most advanced methods, including the injection method.

April 1929. *Food Clinic opened.*

April 1929. *A director of the Out-Patient Department was appointed.*

May 1929. *First Staff-Council Meeting.* As the Out-Patient Department grew, its problems of necessity multiplied. To cope with and settle these problems quickly and efficiently an out-patient Staff-Council was appointed. This Council is composed of the director of the O. P. D., representatives of the social service and volunteer workers, and representatives of each department appointed by the chiefs of these respective departments.

June 1929. *Vascular Clinic Opened.* This Clinic is concerned with diagnosis, treatment, research and study of diseases of the arterial and venous systems.

Sept. 1929. *Afternoon clinic for physiotherapy established.* The demands for this type of treatment overwhelmed the facilities of the morning clinics so that it is necessary to keep the clinic open in the afternoon.

Oct. 1929. *Afternoon Skin Clinic opened.* It became necessary to afford more opportunity for treatment, and every afternoon the skin department is open for numerous types of treatment especially the ethyl-iodide inhalations.

Oct. 2, 1929. *Tumor Clinic opened.* This clinic is discussed fully elsewhere in this journal.

Oct. 2, 1929. *Interclinic consultations established.* By this means consultations are quickly obtained and finished, saving patients many hours of waiting. Doctors go at once to other clinics to see patients, or take their patients to other clinics to be seen at once.

Dec. 1929. *Nephritic Clinic opened.*

Dec. 1929. *Extra days assigned for tonsil and adenoid operations.* This was found necessary because in December operating days were booked to June.

That the hospital is doing its part is quite obvious; but that is not enough. To carry on any great work funds are necessary. It is the duty of everyone of you interested in Jewish Charities to instill the spirit of giving unto your neighbors, so that all the institutions of which the hospital is only one can continue their great work. It is a great task and the satisfaction of its accomplishment will be the greater. Now is the time and yours is the assignment.

We all should feel justly proud to know that our Dr. Charles Wilinsky was asked to make the address at the opening of the New Roxbury Health Unit on September 24, 1929. Outside of his many heavy burdens he finds time to give service in many ways of which this in only one.

A good deal of research on the blood is being carried out by one of the medical staff who has his headquarters in the Pathology Department. Here are studied the various anemias, the leukemias and related conditions. A new method for counting blood platelets (little cells which have to do with clotting of the blood) has been devised. A method new to this country of studying the bone-marrow (where most of the blood is formed) is being successfully used. Various methods of arriving at a diagnosis of certain diseases and of following its course by careful study of the blood are being carried out. Among these methods, which are applicable especially in infectious processes, are the Schilling hemogram (study of the degree of maturity of the white blood corpuscles), the blood sedimentation reaction (study of the rapidity of sinking of the red blood corpuscles) and the "Guttadiaphot." The latter is a recently devised German method in which different colored filter papers are used.

The Volunteer Service of the Beth Israel Hospital held its regular meeting of the month on Wednesday, November 13, 1929.

Reports of the clinic secretaries ,the children's reading, flower information, and library services were read. All showed that the work was growing and progressing.

Dr. Jacob Swartz, the speaker of the afternoon, gave an illuminating address on his new treatment for Fungus Infections. A patient demonstrated the mode of inhalation.

Tea was served at the Nurse's Home.

Beth Israel Hospital School of Nursing

THE School of Nursing has completed its first year in the new Beth Israel Hospital. It seems fitting at this time to view its problems from two angles; first, from the angle of what has been accomplished, and second, from the angle of what plans have been made for the future.

Looking backward, through our statistics, we find sixty students entered the school; sixteen left: all but four left because of mental or physical unfitness for nursing. While the average age of admission was nineteen and the ages varied from eighteen to thirty, two thirds of the students were eighteen when admitted to the school. They came from three states: Connecticut, New Hampshire and Massachusetts. All but three came from the last named state and the largest number came from Dorchester and Chelsea. All but seven are Jewish. All are High School graduates and one has had two years of college work.

Turning to the school building we find that two recitation halls, three laboratories, a gymnasium, two sterilization rooms and several small rooms and closets for supplies, have been set aside for teaching purposes. The laboratories are well equipped. The apparatus and supplies of the best quality.

The teaching staff consists of two full time instructors and lecturers from the nursing, dietetic, medical and surgical staffs of the hospital. An experienced masseuse and a trained instructor are specially employed to teach massage and physical education. Instruction is given according to the plan recommended in The Standard Curriculum, published by the National League of Nursing Education.

During the first four months of the three year course of instruction the students spend most of their time in the class rooms where the sciences, fundamental to nursing, and the elementary nursing procedures are taught. During the last six months of the senior year the students affiliate for pediatrics and obstetrics at the Children's and Lying-In Hospitals. The remainder of the time is spent in the various wards of the hospital. The advanced nursing instruction is given coincidentally with the practical experience.

Let us turn now to the other aspect of our problem i. e., those plans we hope may come to early fruition. The most immediate of these seems to be some new equipment which will increase the value of our lecture courses. A lantern for showing cuts, slides and diagrams has been promised and a moving picture machine and films to assist in teaching History of Nursing, Public Health Nursing, etc. would be of inestimable value.

The library also needs attention. The hospital will purchase the necessary professional books but the school will probably have to depend on its friends for lighter reading. More magazines of a recreational and broadening nature are essential to develop the reading habit in our young women.

While an auditorium is not possible at present, in our building program it will not be forgotten. It should be possible for the social life of the students to preceed without disrupting the homelife for twenty-four hours each time a simple party is held.

Many of our students are musical and several have fine voices. Plans have been made to organize and cultivate these talents.

And lastly a plan has been made whereby the students' practical work on the wards may be carried on uninterrupted by class room instruction; and the theoretical work in the classroom may be learned by students unhandicapped by physical fatigue. This plan is a new contribution to nursing education and it is hoped that the Beth Israel will be the first of the Massachusetts schools of nursing to adopt it.

Considering then the school and its problems, the work done seems but a step in the right direction and the future looks bright with immediate possibilities.

Annual Report Volunteer Service Oct. 1, 1928—Oct. 1, 1929

THE Volunteer Service of the Beth Israel Hospital has just completed one year of activity. It has given approximately 35040 hours of service, or, in other words, the time of seventeen paid full-time workers.

There are about 350 registered members, divided into four classes, namely:

Class A—Those who have given time practically from Oct. 1, 1928 until Oct. 1, 1929, with the exception of a four-to-six-weeks' vacation.

Class B—Those who have given three to six months.

Class C—Those who have given a minimum number of hours.

Class D—Those who have registered and given no service.

In Class A there are 113 members; in Class B, 88 members; in Class C, 121 members; in Class D, 25 members.

On October 1, 1928, there were ten branches of Volunteer Service:

Motor Corps.
Clerical Service.
Information Service.
Usher Service.
Library Service.
Flower Service.
Educational Committee.
Story Telling for Children.
Kindergarten Work with Children.
Sewing.

December 1, a Typist Service was added to those already existing. Around April 1, it was decided to combine the Information and Usher Service, calling them Information Service. On April 1, a Volunteer Worker went into the Record Room to do daily work, and with the exception of three weeks during the summer has been active there.

About September 1, it was deemed advisable to abolish the Motor Corps;—Social Service now provides transportation for their own cases.

During the greater part of September the Appointment Desk was occupied by a Volunteer, and is now permanently filled by a Volunteer Worker.

From about November 15 until July 1, a Volunteer Assistant to the Secretary of the Director of the Hospital worked every forenoon. From November 1, to May 15, Volunteer Service helped the Secretary in Pathology twice a week.

The House Record Room had a Volunteer for two months daily.

The Electrocardiograph Room had an Assistant, probably averaging one hour a week for three months.

The Admitting Office required a Volunteer Worker one forenoon.

The Ward Waiting Room was supplied with Volunteer Service, for a period of about three months, three times a week.

Volunteer Service has been active in the Food Clinic, a Dietician giving two forenoons a week for about two months. Now Volunteer Service is supplying the Food Clinic with a Secretary four days a week.

The Ladies Auxiliary Room has been given help many times in the checking up of its membership, sending out notices, in short, clerical work.

Thus Volunteer Service has labored during its first year of existence. It has made many mistakes, but hopes to be able, as it grows in the coming year, to become more perfect and help the Hospital achieve the heights toward which it is aiming.

Three young women from the Volunteer Service have become paid workers at the Hospital, two of these having obtained their training in Volunteer Service.

The Clerical Service of Clinic Secretarial Force has a representative in every Clinic. The Out Patient consists now of twelve clinics. Each of these Clinics has had a Volunteer Secretary, with the exception of a single day's vacancy in four of the Clinics during the summer months.

The Information Service, which greets the patients as they enter the door, transports records, and solves problems for the patients, has been doing efficient work.

The Library Service has about twelve hundred books, and has functioned during the entire year with the exception of about two months during the summer.

The Flower Service has placed flowers through the Wards and in the Hospital every Friday during the past year, obtaining its funds through unsolicited contributions.

The Educational Committee, combined with the Story-Telling for Children and Kindergarten Work with Children, has functioned three times a week in the Ward with the exception of three months during the summer.

Respestfully submitted,

JESSIE GOLDSMITH.

Executive director—Volunteer Service.

Beth Israel Hospital Women's Auxiliary Membership Campaign

IT IS WELL at this time, with the launching of the annual membership campaign to summarize the work of the Beth Israel Hospital Women's Auxiliary. The specific duty of the Auxiliary is to help in the maintenance and operation of the Out-Patient Department, thus serving humanity in the community.

During the past year more than 36,000 visits have been made to the Out-Patient Department —a valuable service—and this year, no doubt, the scope of work in this department will be enlarged; therefore, our responsibility becomes greater.

Although the Auxiliary has grown since 1926, from a membership of 5490 to 7860, with the annual income increased from $14,781 to $35,817, nevertheless, the Auxiliary must raise at the minimum $50,000 a year from 10,000 members, to carry out its program of work, and depends upon its membership dues, for the most part, as the main source of income. The accomplishment of reaching this quota rests upon the measure of support given by the members through the payment of annual and life membership dues.

The membership of the Auxiliary covers not only the districts of Boston and its outlying cities, but also includes several New England cities.

The policy of membership is graded: $5 Annual—$10 Subscriber, $25 Patron, $50 Donor, $100 Life; any woman, upon payment of dues, is eligible to membership.

The Annual Membership Campaign this year was formally launched at a tea given at the Nurses' Home on Tuesday, November 12, at 3:30 o'clock. Mrs. John Slater is Chairman and her Co-Chairman is Mrs. Theresa Cohen Whitman. The membership committee consists of all the members of the Board and a corps of volunteer workers. Mrs. I. K. E. Prager, Mrs. Theresa Cohen Whitman and Dr. Charles F. Wilinsky, addressed the group. Mrs. Giblin was the soloist and her songs were much enjoyed.

The Auxiliary, through its President, Mrs. I. K. E. Prager, asks for your earnest consideration and support during its membership campaign.

The results in the past have been due to many factors working together for the same end—the welfare of the auxiliary in the interest of the hospital—we now appeal to you all to help us make this campaign a success in attaining our goal of 10,000 members.

Auditorium Events

SINCE our last issue the Beth Israel Auditorium has been the scene of several meetings of great interest and importance. It is a point of great pride with us that our meetings have all been attended by enthusiastic capacity audiences and we believe that the increasingly frequent appearance at these meetings of men from other institutions attest the importance that the Beth Israel is assuming in the community. We look forward with great anticipation to the time when all will turn to the Beth Israel as the leading center of medical progress.

On Oct. 2nd, Dr. Harry Solomon, president of the Greater Boston Medical Society, introduced to a large audience Dr. Alvan Barach of New York, who spoke on the Treatment of pneumonia with specific reference to Oxygen Therapy and Active Immunity.

Dr. Barach is particularly fitted to discuss this subject being one of the foremost workers in this field and the inventor of the well known Oxygen Tent which bears his name. This subject is of particular interest to us here in Boston, as it was here that Dr. Barach's interest in the subject was first aroused, and also because of our own oxygen chamber, much credit for which is due Dr. Barach for his kind interest and helpful advice during its installation. This chamber is the only one of its kind in Boston and one of the very few in the entire country, others being at the Rockefeller Institute and the Mayo Clinic.

Dr. James Means and Dr. Blumgart led the discussion of this most interesting presentation after which the oxygen room was opened for inspection.

A joint meeting of the Greater Boston Medical Society and the Beth Israel Hospital was held Tuesday November 5, 1929. The papers of the evening were presented by the director of research, Dr. Herman Blumgart and his associates, Dr. Samuel Gargill and Dr. A. Carlton Einstene. Dr. Blumgart told of recent clinical studies in the velocity of Blood Flow and demonstrated a case of coarctation of the Aorta.

Dr. Gargill discussed and demonstrated a case of adult Osteomalacia. Dr. Einstene discussed orthopnoea and clinical value of the sedimentation rate of Red Blood Cell.

Dr. Jacob Swartz in the skin department announced a new method for the treatment of mycotic infections of the skin. This work of Dr. Swartz's which is original, has been characterized by one of Boston's leading dermatologists as the outstanding advance in dermatology since the introduction of salvarsan. It is work of this calibre which will inevitably bring the Beth Israel into national prominence. We heartily congratulate Dr. Swartz for a notable contribution to dermatology.

On the evening of Friday, November 15, the Beth Israel was honored by being host to the New England Roentgen Ray Society. The papers of the evening by members of our staff were received enthusiastically by a large audience.

Dr. Percy Davidson discussed the value of Roentgen findings in treatment of digestive diseases. The question of pyelitis of pregnancy discussed by Dr. E. Granville Crabtree in his usual lucid and interesting manner.

Dr. Albert Shapiro and Dr. Samuel Robins discussed and demonstrated the value of uterotubography in gynecological conditions. Dr. Shapiro and Dr. Robins are pioneers of this work in Boston and have accumulated as large and as beautiful a collection of cases and slides as it has ever been our pleasure to witness.

Discussion was opened by Dr. A. K. Paine and Dr. Joseph P. Cohen.

R. D.

Become a subscriber to the Bulletin and help further by contributing to the columns.

Jabs and Jibes

A Regular Column

By WILL WHEELER

ALL ye readers past, present and future, rejoice! This issue mark a new milestone in the growth of our beloved Bulletin. The editors, in their untiring effort to give their best to the vast reading public of this publication, decided to add a new regular feature. Thus this column was born without ether. Yes, by a regular columnist, not Will Rogers necessarily, but a Will nevertheless.

This choice was made after carefully looking over the field and after Neal O'Hara, Medbury, and a few others of their like refused our offer of accepting their services free. Eddie Cantor was not asked.

Mr. Chairman, toastmaster, ladies and the rest of the public! I am here to please you and if I don't, ask for your money back. Try it! I will spare no expense to make this column the most daring, dashing, humorous bit of literature. Maybe. I will make it real modern and modernistic even if I have to search all the ancient and pre-ancient archives. And it is barely possible that we may have to raise the subscription rate. Barely.

When I was a little boy, I read one fable. Some fellow Aesop or Krilov dug it out somewhere. It told of a huge, majestic elephant leading his folks and guarding them from dangers. A little poodle jumped out from his back yard, where he was chewing on a bone, and began barking at the elephant. The dog's doggy pals warned him of the danger of annoying a leader and interferring with his noble work. "The elephant doesn't even see me," yapped the poodle, "but it does make me a hero to bark." He kept on barking.

And now for a little humor. I want my fan mail. Tell me, that you just adore this column and send funny contributions. Who knows, if you so decree, we will make it real long. We may do away with other departments.

Social affairs. Miss Herman has carloads. Often not even invited, but she makes good. A marvelous follow up system. Sometimes she writes lovely little notes and nice people come to talk to her or hear her talk.

Kidding aside, have you had enough? Good day. Call me Bill.

The recent crash in the market has taken its toll in one way or another. Dr. Louis Wolfson left in a hurry for Russia. We understand he didn't get in—by a small margin!

Page Mrs. Gamp!

(From the Boston Herald)

FOR restoring one's faith in human progress there is no tonic equal to a week or two in a modern hospital under surgical care and on a literary diet consisting of Martin Chuzzlewit and the current magazines with their inevitable strictures on the younger generation. Somehow in the hospital world of ordered kindliness, where the keynote of every activity is service—organized, efficient, clear cut—there seems to be little room for either Mrs. Gamp or the wild young women of fiction. The former lady is by all odds the most famous nurse in the world; even Clara Barton or Florence Nightingale are figures less potent to the imagination. Her rightful heirs, and those of the equally philanthropic Betsy Prig, would be naturally the hard-boiled flask-toting vixens of current literature, but if there are any such people outside of the magazines, at least they have adopted some other profession than that of the immortal Sairey.

What is there of Mrs. Gamp with her snuff, her tea-pot of rum, her comfortable, if audible, slumbers on her patient's pillow, in the crisp, brisk figures that walk up and down so tirelessly in their immaculate white shoes? Silhouetted against the wall of the corridor, carrying heavy trays of food, piles of spotless linen, vases of larkspur and roses or the sterilized implements of their trade, all with the same air of almost reverent attention to the task at hand, they have the poised and confident grace of the figures of some Greek frieze. What is there of that younger generation so undisciplined, headstrong and selfish—that generation that was young in 1919, and according to the scandal mongers has grown no older since—in these girls who follow an exacting routine for twelve hours at a stretch and at the end of it are still able to greet the peevish exactions of their elders with unfailing good humor?

They have their faults perhaps. There is a fatal passion for fresh air and bed clothes arranged with geometrical accuracy—no chance at their tender hands for that confortable frowziness that is one of the pleasures of illness. They the ruthless with soap, sparing not the women patient's school girl complexions, but making their faces to shine so that neither powder nor cold cream, no matter if indorsed by all the deposed despots of Europe, can ever dull that well lacquered surface. Their activities—like most purposeful pursuits—are attended with a great deal of noise, so that the phrase, "Hospital Quiet Zone," becomes a quaint anomaly. Yet as one begins to recognize individual sounds in the strident chorus—the jar of the elevator, the clinking and crashing of silver and china, the endless passing and repassing of foot-steps (one knows them all at last and can predict, "that's the pretty one with the curls sticking out under her cap,") the persistent shrilling of the telephone, the clicking squeak of the floor polisher, the flop of swing doors and the running of water—one hears it not as a noise but as a symphony, the central theme of which is kindness to suffering humanity.

Look for Mrs. Gamp and the heartless younger generation somewhere else. In a modern hospital they are as difficult to discover as the mythical Mrs. Harris herself.

Social Service Department

THE work of the Social Service Department of the Beth Israel Hospital has received national recognition through the award of a prize to Miss Evelyn Andelman, one of the staff of the Social Service Department. The prize was awarded because of the excellent demonstration of "the correlation between social and medical study and treatment."

For several years case competitions have been conducted by the American Association of Hospital Social Workers. Case records, properly disguised as to names and addresses of patients, are submitted from hospital social service departments from all parts of the United States. A Committee composed of leading medical social workers in the country are the judges who analyze the cases carefully and announce the prize winners at the annual national conference. The announcement was made this June at San Francisco, California. This Association is the national organization which determines the standards for the profession of medical social work.

At the November meeting of the New England District, American Association of Hospital Social Workers, held at the Simmons College School of Social Work, Miss Evelyn Andelman presented the case mentioned above. There was general discussion of the various problems which had been demonstrated.

Tea for Volunteer Service

MRS. Nathan H. Gordon gave a tea for all the members of Volunteer Service of the Beth Israel Hospital, at the Copley Plaza hotel on Wednesday afternoon, October ninth, in celebration of the first anniversary of Volunteer Service in connection with its work for the Out Patient Department.

The chairman of Volunteer Service, Mrs. Nathan H. Gordon, presided at the meeting which was held previous to the tea. She introduced Miss Jessie Goldsmith, Executive Director of Volunteer Service, who have the annual report.

The speaker of the afternoon was Miss Kate McMahon, Teacher of Medical Social Service at Simmons College, School for Social Workers; Educational Secretary of the American Association of Hospital Social workers, and Advisory to the Junior League. She presented some valuable facts about the system which the Junior League employed in conducting its Volunteer Service.

Other speakers, members of the hospital staff, were:

Dr. Charles F. Wilinsky, Director of the Beth Israel Hospital.

Mrs. I. K. E. Prager, President of the Women's Auxiliary, Miss Josephine A. Mulville, Supervisor of Nurses, Miss Ethel Cohen, Director of Social Service, Miss Elizabeth McMahon, Director of Out Patient Department, and Miss Jessie Goldsmith, Executive Director of Volunteer Service, who brought greetings from their respective departments.

Moving pictures of the various activities of Volunteer Service were shown. These pictures have been donated by Mrs. Gordon to the hospital for future use.

The Beth Israel Hospital Women's Auxiliary

SIX LECTURES

ON

HEALTH

BY

MEMBERS OF THE BETH ISRAEL HOSPITAL STAFF

IN THE

AUDITORIUM—BETH ISRAEL HOSPITAL

330 Brookline Avenue, Boston

THURSDAY AFTERNOONS AT 2:30

FEBRUARY 6
Subject: OUR HEALTH
Speaker: DR. CHARLES WILINSKY
Director Beth Israel Hospital

FEBRUARY 20
Subject: KEEPING FIT
Speaker: DR. ARMIN KLEIN
Asst. Professor Orthopedic Surgery Tufts Medical School

MARCH 6
Subject: PREVENTION OF DISEASES IN CHILDREN
Speaker: DR. ELI FRIEDMAN
Asst. Professor in Pediatrics, Tufts Medical School

MARCH 20
Subject: MOSAIC LAW IN MODERN HYGIENE
Speaker: DR. MILTON J. ROSENAU
Professor of Preventive Medicine and Hygiene, Harvard Medical School

APRIL 3
Subject: DISEASES OF MIDDLE LIFE
Speaker: DR. HARRY LINENTHAL
Professor of Clinical Medicine Tufts Medical School

APRIL 17
Subject: THAT TIRED FEELING
Speaker: DR. ABRAHAM MYERSON
Professor of Neurology, Tufts Medical School

Course Tickets $1.00 Single Admission 25c